

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 16:30:00 1995  
Subject: "the Elite"  
From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)  
Message-Id: <2a6.22888.500@acenet.com>  
Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 11:30:00 -0500

From: brian.carling@acenet.com

gmd@rfpo1.rfc.comm.harris.com (DIANA, GARY M) writes:

DGM>rig. Later Chuck changed the rules, which was OK, and then sometime  
DGM>later a response was posted to the effect that by imposing the  
DGM>"homebrew" clause, approximately 95% of the people reading the  
DGM>notice would be EXCLUDED from the contest. The implication was that  
DGM>only the "elite" (i.e. those with homebrewed rigs) could participate.

READ the message my friend! That is NOT what it said! You must have  
been speed reading and skipped the main point that was UNDERLINING  
the word "RECEIVER". What I said was that building our own receiver  
was a problem for many hams.

DGM>SAY IT AIN'T SO, JOE!

The name is Brian, not "JOE", and sure, it ain't so!  
It ain't what I said!

Here's the quote you refered to:

+++++  
> From: brian.carling@acenet.com

CA> A. Homebrew or kitted rigs only. No ICOMs, no Yaesu's, etc.  
CA> Get out or build the NN1Gs, OHRs, Danny's Small Parts, ugly  
CA> construction or whatever. This includes receiver and transmitter.  
|||||||

BC> You just eliminated 95% of the people reading this message!

+++++

DGM>I hope more than 5% of the qrp list participants have built something  
DGM>from a kit...

I have, but I prefer to use my Kenwood turned down to 5 watts  
right now because I work two jobs and have little time to homebrew.  
I have built several homebrew receivers that didn't work!

DGM>And I always though the "elite" were those with sufficient \$\$\$ to buy  
DGM>the YaeComWood equipment!

Not at all. The Elite are those with Commercial kits in the \$250+ range. Or the new TenTec \$1200-1500 QRP rig. Even an S&S Engineering rig, a \$375.00 OHR kit or an Index Labs rig would be way beyond my reach these days, and to me the guys who have THESE rigs are the QRP elite!

I traded some junk that I got for free, for a SONY ICF2010 three years ago, and then sold it last year and added about \$125 that I got from selling some more junk that I got for free, and traded up to an old, used TS430. So that makes me "Elite?" I think not!

Just a few random thoughts. I am not upset about whatever rules are set up. I will just make the contacts anyway at 5 watts, enjoy the QSOs immensely, and not enter for any prizes, awards or acclaim! And I will have JUST as much fun as the rest of the gang... See you all on the air! 72 de AF4K/QRP

BTW - my antenna blew down this week so I am QRT for a few days!

---

~ SLMR 2.1a ~ Remember, you are unique, just like everyone else!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 16:30:00 1995

Subject: Re: "the Elite"

From: brian.carling@acenet.com (Brian Carling)

Message-Id: <2a6.22890.500@acenet.com>

Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 11:30:00 -0500

From: brian.carling@acenet.com

Dr. Rick (zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca) writes:

RZ>Actually, I like being "elite" if using low power and learning how to  
RZ>build stuff after being a ham for 20 plus years qualifies!

RZ>However, how about a compromise? Make the transmitter be homebrew.  
RZ>10 bucks for a ONER or something similiar should not be too financially  
RZ>onerous or difficulat to assemble!

Yes, exactly what I was hoping we could do.

I would love to build a homebrew 30m CW xmtr. This event could be the type of thing that would propel me into getting on with doing just that but if I have to build a receiver too, or a transceiver, forget it (for

now at least!!)

73 - Brian, AF4K

---

~ SLMR 2.1a ~ Remember, you are unique, just like everyone else!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 14:57:06 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 07:57:06 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
Subject: Re: 'CWese' help needed  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.90.950505074726.1045C-1000000@nimbus>

On Thu, 4 May 1995, howie cahn wrote:

> On Wed, 3 May 1995 smp@agape.sol.net wrote:  
>  
> > > The only thing that irritates me are  
> > > excessive use of abbreviations. A QSO like "I WRK AS ELCTR ENGR ES BN  
> > > WKG HR 12 YRS ES B4 WUZ U.S. PREZ" gets kinda ruff. But the more  
universal  
> > > FB OM, HW CPY, CU AGN, BK TO U, etc. are all well understood.  
> >

Hmmmmmm, am I the only one that will admit that I use a lot  
of abbreviations because my keyer dosen't do a good job of  
spell checking?

I have a funny feeling that most would find my abbreviations  
better to understand than my raw spelling! :-)

And a big GOOD JOB on the first ever qrp column in the NCJ.  
Congrats and keep gro crowd guessing! How about getting a  
picture of Danny, eating a apple while dressed in a suit &  
tie and operating a 40a? :-)

cul es tu, . .

73, Ron .... dah, dah (I'm three times slower)

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
.....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada....  
.....ARRL.....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 00:58:44 1995  
Date: Thu, 4 May 1995 18:58:44 -0600 (MDT)  
From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>  
Subject: anti qrp hecklers  
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950504185218.11764B-100000@ume>

Mike makes mention of this as a reason to avoid being a newsgroup.  
I must ask: why would anybody be anti qrp or want to heckle qrpers?  
(I say this as a previous serious dxer and still sometimes serious  
contestor.....I know why people don't like this group!) Is there a group  
out there saying "1.5 kw or nothing"...."use it or loose it"?

Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)	*	VE6GK
Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca	*	NorCal 519 ARCI 7650 GQRP 8329
Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276	*	"Power is no substitute for skill"

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 11:48:28 1995  
Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 06:48:28 -0500 (EST)  
From: cebik@UTKVVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU  
Subject: Re: anti qrp hecklers  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505050609.A543305379-0100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

Rick,

I believe the experience with news groups suggests that there are those who are anti-anything, hecklers waiting for a subject to flame, seekers of attention whose only means--for want of self-confidence--is to get in the way of others and arouse attention-as-angered-response. They tend to be ignored on lists (or responded to off-list), but manage to arouse heated exchanges in the news groups. It takes a great deal of self-discipline to ignore and let pass a flamer who deserves a lecture on disagreement-with-courtesy; I know, because my tongue has holes from biting it when encountering the occasional flamer that briefly appears on one of the many netlists to which I subscribe. However, only if basic courtesy and good will are the foundation of a group (list or news) can we feel free to good-naturedly kid a fellow member, knowing it will be recognized as that and not a flame. On some news groups, skins have worn thin enough that folks speak very carefully, and that gets to be unnatural. So while this list is not immune from occasional criticism, it still remains relaxed, friendly, and therefore open to wide-ranging discussions whose thread to qrp is sometimes long and thin, but

allowable. And it is accessible to those who have only the most basic e-mail service without extended access to other facets of Internet. My own opinion is that in an imperfect world, it is working pretty doggone well, and improving--especially as well all get to know each other better.

This opinion is worth no more than what each reader has paid for it.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 13:21:43 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 95 08:21:43 CDT  
From: msdooley@collie.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)  
Message-Id: <9505051321.AA16822@collie.aud.alcatel.com>  
Subject: Re: anti qrp hecklers

> Date: Thu, 4 May 1995 18:58:44 -0600 (MDT)  
> From: Rick Zabrodski <zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca>  
> Subject: anti qrp hecklers  
>  
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> I must ask: why would anybody be anti qrp or want to heckle qrpers?  
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> out there saying "1.5 kw or nothing"...."use it or lose it"?  
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>  
> Dr. Rick Zabrodski BSc, MD, CCFP(E)       \*                   VE6GK  
> Email: zabrodsk@med.ucalgary.ca           \*   NorCal 519   ARCI 7650   GQRP 8329  
> Phone 403-271-5123 Fax 403-225-1276       \*   "Power is no substitute for skill"  
>

Actually, the 'high power' folks (some of them) kind of look down their nose at us. I had the recent experience of operating with a friend of mine who is an avid contestator and dxer. He virtually never operates at less than 1000. When I broke out my 950mw 40 meter home brew he actually laughed. By the time the weekend was over his tune had changed to 'hey that thing really works!'. My other experience during the same weekend was with a ham in Chicago who, when we exchanged rig information, said he had to go QRT then signed and disappeared.. right in the middle of a QSO. Two minutes later I found him 3kc down calling CQ... hhhmmmmmm.... oh well. I'm having fun (and educating my high power buds!) building and operating. Besides, it takes all kinds and as my mom used to say (still does!) if everyone were the same life would sure be BORING. P-)  
Mike KE4PC

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 15:17:00 1995  
Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 10:17 -0500 (CDT)  
From: "Muenzler, Kevin" <MUENZLERK@uthscsa.edu>  
Subject: Re: anti qrp hecklers  
Message-Id: <01HQ52MZY72A008RZJ@uthscsa.edu>

msdooley@collie.aud.alcatel.com writes:

<snip>  
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>my high power buds!) building and operating. Besides, it takes all kinds  
and  
>as my mom used to say (still does!) if everyone were the same life would  
sure  
>be BORING. P-)  
>Mike KE4PC

Real hams don't need amps!

Kevin WB5RUE, WAS, WAC, 45 countries confirmed QRP-CW  
muenzlerk@uthscsa.edu

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 19:12:45 1995  
Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 14:12:45 -0500 (EST)  
From: David Moody <MOODY@Admin.Rose-Hulman.Edu>  
Subject: Re: anti qrp hecklers  
Message-Id: <01HQ5A0HG60HTRWYV@ADMIN.Rose-Hulman.EDU>

IN%"MUENZLERK@uthscsa.edu" writes:

>Real hams don't need amps!

How about:

When it comes to radio spectrum, be a ham, not a hog!

My two milliwatts worth...

72, David Moody, KD8NY, c'mon Field Day

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-----  
David A. Moody           | E-mail: David.Moody@Rose-Hulman.edu  
Admin. Programmer/Analyst | Finger: mgrdam@crux.Rose-Hulman.edu  
Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. | Amateur Call: KD8NY (CW QRP) ex-WB9MMD  
Terre Haute, IN  USA  47803 | (VMS Rules!!! (but RSTS was fun.))  
Wk Ph:  812.877.8183      |  
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Any facts expressed within belong to everybody.

Any opinions expressed within are my own and are not  
necessarily the same as my employer, family, friends, etc.

It is up to you to know the difference.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 17:19:43 1995

From: bfollett@ditell.com

Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 11:19:43 -0600

Message-Id: <199505051719.LAA10666@solar.ditell.com>

Subject: Anti-QRP & Newsgroups

Rick Zabrodski writes: <Is there a group  
out there saying "1.5 kw or nothing"...."use it or loose it"? >

Perhaps not, but how many of you have had the experience of  
mentioning you are QRP in a non-qrp ssb contest, and find immediate  
challenges over the listening frequency from the mentally impaired  
that "you couldn't be QRP with that signal"? It seems to me that  
many of the "Mine is bigger than yours crowd" suffer great personal  
anxiety when a DX station comes back to someone signing QRP with  
their call instead of acknowledge their "superior signal".

I don't know about anyone else here, but part of the reason I love  
QRP is finding a group that still puts operating skill and strategy  
ahead of bullying the pileup groups with massive ERP. Maybe qrp  
folk are no different than the general cross-section of high power  
hams, but by being limited to 5, 1 or lower watts, running power to

dominate a frequency is not an option--and most of us don't use two stacked five element yagis on 20m either.

What I am trying to say is that while even QRO folk would agree that they could run much less power to comply with Part 97, they can only do it if everyone else turns down the afterburners too. The desire to avoid QRM from an established contact, or worse, a schedule on a currently-occupied frequency (read--my frequency), drives hams to crank up the power and Dominate the Frequency. I, for one, was driven from HF hamming because of this...qrp is allowing a slow reentry back for me.

Flame suit is now engaged!

73's Bob, WA7FCU

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 19:53:44 1995  
Message-Id: <9505051952.AA27723@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>  
Date: Fri, 5 May 95 15:53:44 EDT  
From: "Dennis, K1YPP, 226-5982" <blanchard@nac.enet.dec.com>  
Subject: Battery comparisons.

I'm often asked about batteries and their capabilities. The following data comes from RAY-O-VAC corporation and compares their Renewal rechargeable alkaline batteries to several other popular portable technologies. One point that is not clear here is that at the end of the 25 charge cycles for the Renewal batteries, the battery is not dead, is still has the same amount of energy available as a new NiCad, which are high current devices, but are low on total energy available.

Dennis, K1YPP

RAY-O-VAC Comparison Data for various popular batteries.

#### AA CELL COMPARISON DATA

	Primary Alkaline	NiCd	NiMH	RENEWAL
Nominal Capacity (mA-Hr)	2000	750	1100	1400



Cycle life	1	200+	300+	25+
Operating Voltage	1.5-0.8	1.3-1.0	1.3-1.0	1.5-0.8
Weight (g)	22	22	26	22
Continuous Output Current	600 mA	>5A	>4A	400 mA
Self-Discharge	0.01%/day	1%/day	2-4%/day	0.01%/day
Typical retail cost (4 cell pack) U.S.	\$3.00	\$10-\$30	\$60+	\$5.00
Safely disposable	yes	no	maybe*	yes

\* Depends on local regulations.

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 18:40:48 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 14:40:48 -0400 (EDT)  
From: prvalko <prvalko@oakland.edu>  
Subject: Re: Building Contest  
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505051425.A20818-0100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Thu, 4 May 1995, chuck adams wrote:

> Jeff,  
>  
> Today we just send a "dit dit" at the end of a qso as a carry over  
> from the old days. Others hear us OTs do it and think that it's  
> a secret handshake or something and they do it and .....

Chuck,

You all may be amused to note that on our local repeater, we often give a double kurchunk at the end of a QSO to signal that we heard the "final" transmission, and were still listening... as opposed to shutting the radio off in the middle of it ;-)

I still do a "dit dit" and more often than not, the "dit dididit dit" at

the end of a CW contact too.

Speaking of old habits... I also still ID as "mobile eight," while driving around town... drives the new guys nuts.

73 =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 14:36:29 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 10:36:29 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Jim Stafford-W4QO <w4qo@america.net>  
Subject: Re: Dayton - one more time  
Message-Id: <Pine.SV4.3.91.950505103136.12450B-1000000@atl11.america.net>

On Thu, 4 May 1995, Robert J. Gobrick wrote:

> neo-management term like that). Since getting to Dayton is a sacrifice in  
> time and money for many - why don't we add one more day to the venue and  
> make Thursday "QRP ARCI Day".

Bob et al, I agree wholeheartedly! I always think Dayton is too short.  
I'd like to see the hamfest go to 4 days. But I like the idea of a QRP  
day say at the Days Inn - Dayton South. We could even charge for a  
"ticket" to cover the cost of the room and maybe a buffet lunch, etc.  
Like you say, have some speakers, parts/goodie sellers, etc. Count me in.

Jim Stafford, W4QO	RadioActive Schools(sm) -
11395 West Road	Using amateur radio as
Roswell, GA 30075-2122	a teaching tool in north
404-993-9500	Georgia area schools.
Packet:W4QO@WA4BR0.#atl.ga.usa.na	Internet: w4qo@america.net

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 6 03:20:13 1995  
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)  
Subject: Re: Dayton - one more time  
Date: Fri, 05 May 95 22:20:13 EST5EDT  
Message-Id: <1995May05.222013.103333@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

Put me down for the extra QRP day for Dayton! Three days is quite  
enough, UNLESS you want to do both QRP and the tailgating! 73 and  
Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org  
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org  
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA  
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 23:10:59 1995  
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 19:10:59 -0400  
Message-Id: <950505191057\_108424795@aol.com>  
Subject: DSP filters

Hi Randy,

On Digital Signal Processing units:

I have the JPS NRF-7 - designed for the QSK CW and the SSB operators, had it two years and use it every day. I leave it in-line all the time. it always reduces some noise and amplifies all signals. cost about 240, reduces operator fatigue. has peak mode, 2 ssb filters, 2 cw filters, notch mode and combinations of notch and peak, notch and ssb wide filter, notch and ssb narrow filter. for the cw op, the only usefull features are peak or cw wide or cw narrow. you cant use peak and a filter at the same time (major disadvantage), new unit (NRF-12) has two DSP 40 mhz chip sets to get around this limitation. Bought this two years ago at dayton.

also have the Timewave 59+, it has added features, filter widths from 25 hz to 3.4 khz but requires alot of knob twisting and messing around. i found i dont use it much. if a signals is so weak, i need to play with the knobs, he probably wont stay in long enough for a qso anyway. also has audio AGC, movable center freq, high pass or low pass filter options. and Notch for ssb users. price about 299, bought this last year at dayton

i just picked up the radio shack DSP it was on sale for 50 bucks and has a 2 watt audio amp and speaker built in. figured i couldnt go wrong for 50 bucks. havent played with it yet, but have a couple of friends that have it and thinks its worth the price. they use it for portable QRP work, its has a bandwidth switch (wide/medium/narrow) and a filter switch (nr,cw,ssb) nr being noise reduction.

DSP's most interesting feature is the Peak mode, also called Noise Reduction mode. It reconizes a signal, amplifies it and pushes the noise down, thereby increasing the signal to noise ratio. this will pull a signal out of the noise and make a QSO possible, when it wasnt before. amazing. Next are the digital brick wall filters. if you dont already have a SCAF filter, this is a great feature to have and will increase your qso rate during crowned band conditions.

The DSP technology is changing rapidly and the newer JPS NRF-12 has improved peak function, multiple features (peak and filter together) faster processors (i think they said it has 40 mhz chip sets, but i'm not sure about that). variable filter widths and center frequencys. It reduces atmospheric white noise, auto ignition noise, power line noise, static, computer/TV interference. It uses both spectral subtraction and dynamic peaking noise reduction. The demo's at dayton sound better then real world conditions but these filters are quite amazing. I still dont spent much time on 80m, so they arent a cure all. price is 350. this could be the best unit on the market and i will probably wind up with one in the near future.

The upside to DSP's is since they work in the audio line, you can use them with any shortwave or hamband receiver/transceiver. unlike a kenwood I.F. filter, 150 bucks a pop and it only works in another Kenwood with the same model number.

The downside, and theres always a downside, is the current draw can range from 500 ma to 1 amp, since most of these units have a built in audio amp. makes it tough on batteries for portable use. also, just using a very narrow filter doesnt always help the situation. signals that bounce off the E2 or D layers many times, tend to shift in frequency enough to slide in and out of a 200 hz filter. I've found with the QRP Plus's digital SCAF filter that the 400 hz bandwidth is the narrowest i can use on DX consistantly. But for local signals, the 200 hz filter works OK.

I'm sure down the road, DSP will be built into more and more affordable transceivers (1000-1300 dollar price range), at present, its in the 4400 dollar Kenwood and the 2400 dollar Omni-6's.

If you're looking for more info about JPS DSP units, they are JPS@nando.net  
72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

-----  
Hi Byron..... I didn't keep a copy of the post to qrp-l the other day, but are you the one who was commenting on DSP filters??? I'm thinking of buying one in the near future and know absolutely nothing about them e.g. what's good, what's bad, etc. I only work cw. Any recommendations ?

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 6 03:35:26 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 20:35:26 -0700  
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)  
Message-Id: <199505060335.UAA18475@netcom14.netcom.com>

Subject: Re: DSP filters

Byron8LCZ@aol.com writes:

>i just picked up the radio shack DSP it was on sale for 50 bucks and has a 2  
>watt audio amp and speaker built in. figured i couldnt go wrong for 50 bucks.  
>havent played with it yet, but have a couple of friends that have it and  
>thinks its worth the price. they use it for portable QRP work, its has a  
>bandwidth switch (wide/medium/narrow) and a filter switch (nr,cw,ssb) nr  
>being noise reduction.

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>The upside to DSP's is since they work in the audio line, you can use them  
>with any shortwave or hamband receiver/transceiver. unlike a kenwood I.F.  
>filter, 150 bucks a pop and it only works in another Kenwood with the same  
>model number.

Just a quick comment... DSP in the speaker line means the radio's AGC is operating on the pre-filtered audio. Big carrier in the radio passband and the AGC cuts gain across the whole passband. Most newer DSPs have a second AGC after the DSP processing to compensate somewhat for this effect. The radio shack DSP does not have AGC after the DSP function. Without this feature things get mysteriously quiet when the DSP is killing a carrier. Still, even the RS unit is amazingly helpful, as long as you know what to expect of it. For \$50 it's an excellent beginner's DSP - you can't really go wrong with it.

I looked into the feasibility of putting DSP in before the AGC (that is, inside the audio AGC loop) but DSPs use a rather small width AD converter (8-16 bits) and therefore can only deal with audio over a fairly narrow level range, so the DSP really needs AGC'd audio at it's input. It seems to me that the best arrangement then is exactly what we have in most of these products - connection to the radio's audio output and AGC following the DSP process.

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 16:01:31 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 11:01:31 -0500  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Message-Id: <199505051601.LAA11639@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>  
Subject: FCC Exam Questions

Gang,

I have the VECs Question Pool in hardcopy format.

Radio Amateur's ELEMENT 2 & 3(A) --- Novice and Technician Class Test Material  
Radio Amateur's ELEMENT 3(B) --- General Class Test Manual  
Radio Amateur's ELEMENT 4(A) --- Advanced Class Test Manual  
Radio Amateur's ELEMENT 4(B) --- Extra Class Test Manual

Before I start in on this, does anyone have this material in ASCII format? I know that some disks exist whereby the material is in compressed or internal formats.

Here is the plan. Put all this material in ASCII format and put it at the new site for ftp'able access.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 16:46:34 1995  
From: Bob Levine <levine@mc.com>  
Date: Fri, 5 May 95 12:46:34 EDT  
Message-Id: <9505051646.AA05875@fugu>  
Subject: Finishing the NorCal 40A

First of all, I want to thank Bruce (sorry lost your call and email address) for waiting for me at Hara Arena when I was late. The unbuilt NorCal 40A you sold me is now a built NorCal 40A and worked first time (after alignment procedure of course).

I want to paint the kit now but have no experience painting/finishing brushed aluminum (I assume that is what it is).

Any suggestions on type of paint/coat to use? Also, I want to send it to Stan K4DRD for silkscreening so I want to make sure what I do to it is compatible with silkscreening.

This was my first kit that required torroid "sewing". (My other experience with QRP kit building was with the OHR Explorer which came with pre-wound torroids). That was not the most pleasurable thing to do! Didn't actually finish until 1am so I didn't get on the air. Hope to hear some others around 7.010-7.020 or so this weekend.

This part of the hobby is a hidden treasure.

73 Bob KD1GG

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 19:33:17 1995  
Message-Id: <m0s7Uhd-0000M1C@juts.ccc.amdahl.com>  
Date: Friday, 5 May 1995 14:07 PT  
From: bruce.florip@amail.amdahl.com  
Subject: Great Building Contest Awards?

So tell me what happened to all of the award categories that were discussed before Dayton... There wasn't enough steam left after the QRP Dinner to head off to the QRP Hospitality Suite for the Build It Contest...

My offer for a 1 year subscription to Hambrew for the ugliest functional rig in the contest is still good if the prize was awarded :)

(baf00@amail.amdahl.com)  
73 from Santa Clara, Ca. Bruce AA7AR/6

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 22:34:44 1995  
From: CLATON.CADMUS@hamlink.mn.org (CLATON CADMUS)  
Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 07:53:22  
Message-Id: <799654007.AA01556@hamlink.mn.org>  
Subject: IQ130

I think Chuck's idea is a great one. It kind of makes you afraid to think what he would have come up with if there had been lots of road construction? ;-)

I agree with the suggestion on changing it to operating from only one section, I'm in Minnesota and nice hot summer afternoon's and camping opportunities are not all that plentiful. It would be nice to have the option to operate portable.

However, I would like to see the rule stand that it must be with a homebrew rig. And before someone says anything, I ain't got one. :-( Yet! ;-). After Chuck's post I went and looked up the 4040 article, looks like about a 10 hour project (I make my own PCB's). ;-} I think that's a small investment to work a three month contest. And I believe the intent here was to create a reason to build a small rig. I don't think we would lose very many operators by keeping this rule.

I can, of course, understand Brian's point of view. Many QRPers use a commercial receiver. A close look at his message shows this was Brian's point. Those that build rigs and things are certainly not elite, just different then the average ham!

I'm sure most, if not all, of the people on this list could build a simple receiver(transceiver) if they put their mind to it. What better incentive to heat up the soldering iron then guaranteed operating fun!

Anyway, that's my thoughts. Any and all flames via E-mail only please.

73 de Claton Cadmus, KA0GKC

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| FIDOnet= Claton Cadmus 1:282./100 |
| INTERNet= Claton.Cadmus@hamlink.mn.org |
| PACKETnet= KA0GKC@WB0GDB.#STP.MN.USA.NA |
| AT&Tnet= (612)920-5126 |
| MAILnet= 3985 Alabama Ave. S. / St. Louis Park, MN 55416 |
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\* SLMR 2.1a \* HAMFEST verb 1) The art of sneaking stuff in the house.

---NoSnail v1.17

\*\*\*\*\*  
HAM>link< RBBS - Serving the Amateur Radio Community Since 1983

- 612/HAM-0000 v.34 Ham Radio Spoken Here!!  
- 612/HAM-1010 v.32b Reply to sender @ hamlink.mn.org  
\*\*\*\*\*

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 13:54:39 1995  
Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 08:54:39 -0500 (EST)  
From: "David Moody, KD8NY" <MOODY@admin.rose-hulman.edu>  
Subject: Re: IQ130 contest  
Message-Id: <01HQ4ZK3RDY6HTRWYV@ADMIN.Rose-Hulman.EDU>

>The contest is a great idea---especially for 30M, but here's my  
> two-bits worth:

Anything that boosts 30m activity without turning it cutthroat is for me.

>Re: name --- I rather like calling it ''30-something''

Sure, why not. But this isn't a contest, it's an operating opportunity,  
an event. [Rationalize module ON]

>Re: mobile --- how about a bonus just for mobile CW in motion  
> especially considering how tough it is to punch out CW



> while driving...

Is it safe to drive and log??? ;-)

>Re: More than one section --- hats off to you, let's give additional  
> points for operating in more than one ARRL section, however  
> you enter as a 'multi-single' (each section is treated  
> as another 'band' is scored in the CQWW or ARRL DX), so  
> total score = Q's x mults per band...

Boy, I wish I lived closer to more section borders, or in So. Cal. Maybe this would be better using the V/UHF contests "rover" category only it applies to sections, not grids.

>Re: biggest bonus --- adjust scoring so you get most points for working 77  
> sections in only 77-qso's! Of course, you're honor bound to report  
ALL  
> qso's ---

I think that should be a sponsored award. Hmm, have to think about that one a bit. We are honorable people, right? ;^) In fact, it isn't hard to come up with all kinds of different awards (this is not a contest) for this event.

>That ought to start the e-mail flowing! 72, and back to the work bench  
>to finish the NN1G 40-30 ---- excellent idea, yeah CHUCK!

Well, here is my e-mail. I love the idea, and I hope that we can do this without getting flamed over contests on 30m. The long term nature of the event ought to take care of that problem.

Just to add to this thread...

I think that the HB requirement should only be a bonus. I would much rather HB my xmtr and use my ICOM R71 rcvr, or even fire up the MFJ, but however the rules, errr operating guidelines go, I will do it that way. I like the idea of this way too much. (Repeat quietly to yourself...This is not a contest, this is not a ...)

72 es CU on 30m, but I won't say exactly when, except to say that I work days, and [...stop this before it gets out of hand...]  
72, 73, David Moody, KD8NY

---

David A. Moody	E-mail: David.Moody@Rose-Hulman.edu
Admin. Programmer/Analyst	Finger: mgrdam@crux.Rose-Hulman.edu
Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech.	Amateur Call: KD8NY (CW QRP) ex-WB9MMD

Terre Haute, IN USA 47803 | (VMS Rules!!! (but RSTS was fun.))  
Wk Ph: 812.877.8183 |

---

Any facts expressed within belong to everybody.  
Any opinions expressed within are my own and are not  
necessarily the same as my employer, family, friends, etc.  
It is up to you to know the difference.

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 19:17:54 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 14:17:54 -0500  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Message-Id: <199505051917.0AA12065@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>  
Subject: IQ130 Prize Pool

One more prize added and this is a one year sub to WorldRadio Magazine  
and this prize from Richard Fisher, KI6SN.

Consider the sub and the rig as "trophies" for the EXERCISE on 30M.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 20:11:52 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 15:11:52 -0500  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Message-Id: <199505052011.PAA12172@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>  
Subject: John G. Curtis

A while back we went through a discussion of the 8044ABM  
chip, the application notes, and all that jazz.

The phone number listed for Curtis Devices (415) 964-3846  
in their application notes and given in the April Issue of  
QQ by WA8MCQ in his column has been disconnected.

Now we've seen this before in other companies, but the issue  
here is the whereabouts of Curtis Electro Devices, Inc.

I am using the new PCBoards program to layout a complete  
board with the anti-burp circuit and attempting to make it  
fit snugly into the space in back of the NC40, NC40a, and

NC Sierra.

I will then layout the board for the K5FO I8031 keyer and announce to the net. I'll put the postscript copies of the boards on the ftp site with copyright notice, just in case someone wants to then pay royalties to make money. :-)

Otherwise you can make one of kind boards for yourself.

Everybody wants a free lunch. Ain't no such thingy.

So, what's the word on Curtis?

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 05:57:28 1995

Date: Thu, 4 May 1995 19:57:28 -1000

Message-Id: <199505050557.TAA26796@mango.aloha.com>

From: beltrani@mango.aloha.com (Paul Beltrani)

Subject: QRP Accessory box, update (Long)

(I apologize in advance if this msg has already made it to the list. Unfortunately, my internet service is not always reliable and I have reason to believe my original posting was never sent. As I have seen neither my original post nor any possible replies, I am resending this.)

Here is an update on my project to build one unit that contains the extras we usually add to a rig, antenna and power supply.

For those of you that missed the original, this unit should be small, light and easily reproduced. All active circuits can be switched off to conserve power.

If there is enough interest, I will make plans and a schematic available to the list.

-----

I plan to include the following circuits and would appreciate any suggestions for improvements or additions.

Case: I would like to go with the Sierra case. I have to check with Wilderness Radio or NorCal to see if there is convenient source. (Unit must be easily reproducible, no difficult to get parts)

AF Amp: a simple LM386 based audio amp that will drive headphones or an internal speaker.

SWR/Pwr meter: I plan to use the Roy Lewallen design on page 217 of the ARRL QRP Classics book (also Feb 90 QST). The circuit is simple and designed to be accurate at QRP levels.

Dummy load: if there is room, I will include a simple 5w dummy.

Straight Key Jack: basically just an easy way hook up paddles and a SK at the same time. This will just connect to the keying output jack.

Iambic Keyer: I had planned on a Curtis 8044ABM based keyer. However several people have suggested the CMOS II contest keyer. I am leaning towards the CMOS II because it is no larger than a full featured Curtis, is a simpler circuit, and it has the added feature of memories. However I am concerned about the price that it would add to the project.

TransMatch: I am considering the "Z-Match" circuit for three reasons.

- 1) It is simple. It does not have a switched/roller inductor  
There are only two tuning adjustments.
- 2) It works with both Balanced and Unbalanced lines.
- 3) It covers a fair range of Z mismatch

For more info on the circuit, check out Bill Orr's "Radio Fun" cols in the Aug 93 - Oct 93 issues of CQ. (For those who are interested, email me and I'll try to email back an ASCII version of the schematic)

I would appreciate the input from the group on the suitability of this circuit for QRP work.

Power input jack:

Regulated power out jack:

There isn't room for much more, though suggestions are welcome.

-----

- Paul Beltrani

beltrani@aloha.com

ah6nu@nh6yw.hi.usa.oc Amateur Radio Packet

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 23:10:59 1995  
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 19:10:59 -0400  
Message-Id: <950505191058\_108424828@aol.com>  
Subject: Quarterly

Has anyone received the April ARCI Quarterly magazine yet ?

72, Byron WA8LCZ

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 18:20:01 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 13:20:01 -0500  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Message-Id: <199505051820.NAA11953@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>  
Subject: Shave and a Haircut

AH HA!! Caught you!! Those of you who sent me  
email to remind me that it was "two bits" have  
given me additional information about which generation  
you're in. :-) :-) The younger "kids" probably wouldn't  
remember that..... :-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri May 5 13:51:07 1995  
From: JDuffy@aol.com  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 09:51:07 -0400  
Message-Id: <950505095106\_107830033@aol.com>  
Subject: Re: SSB QRP

Why aren't there any SSB QRP nets or roundtables? Also, are there any SSB  
QRP standard meeting frequencies?

I always know where to find the QRP CW ops, but never know where to go to  
find SSB QRP ops. Anyone know? Anyone have any ideas?

Regards,

Duffy - WB8NUT

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 19:21:07 1995  
Subject: Re: SSB QRP  
Date: Fri, 05 May 1995 12:21:07 -0700  
Message-Id: <8684.799701667@safety.ics.uci.edu>  
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>

> Why aren't there any SSB QRP nets or roundtables? Also, are there any SSB  
> QRP standard meeting frequencies?

You know, there are some standard QRP SSB calling frequencies, but they are not ones I tend to frequent. I operate 40 meters 99 per cent of the time, and the calling frequency there is up in the foreign BC I believe, so I rarely go there when things are hopping, I usually hang down around 7225 + a few. Is this worth discussing more? If the calling frequency is down there, I will hang there more often, but I seem to recall that it is 7280 or something, a section of the band impossible even for QRO guys after 6 pm.

> I always know where to find the QRP CW ops, but never know where to go to  
> find SSB QRP ops. Anyone know? Anyone have any ideas?

Good questions for discussions. After the SSB foxhunts, we all know that some of us own microphones and even know the precise buttons needed to activate them. I am active at least one evening a week on 40 (and sometimes 75) SSB QRP. If we had standard frequencies that were relatively usable (or a small range), I might begin there.

Clark  
WA3JPG

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 19:09:56 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 12:09:56 -0700  
Message-Id: <199505051909.MAA29705@kilroy>  
From: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov (Gregory R. LaBorde)  
Subject: Re: TEJAS gell cell charger

At 12:01 AM 5-4-95 -0400, Brien Pepperdine wrote:

>... and the A&A system as is  
>also in the 1995 and 1994 ARRL Handbook is a bit too rich for my blood.

There is a guy at the Southern California swapmeets who sells the kit to make that charge controller for \$8 or so? Under \$20 (US) at any rate.

Contains the parts, PCB, no enclosure or heatsink. Is that cheap enough? If you could find someone who goes...

-Greg

--

Gregory R. LaBorde - KD6MSM	Internet: laborde@kilroy.jpl.nasa.gov
Jet Propulsion Laboratory	AMPRNet : kd6msm@jpl-gw.w6vio.ampr.org
Systems Engineering - Galileo OET	Packet : KD6MSM@W6VIO.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA
M/S 264-805 4800 Oak Grove Drive	Phone : (818) 393-1107
Pasadena, CA 91109	

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat May 6 01:41:29 1995  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 21:41:29 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Jim Stafford-W4QO <w4qo@america.net>  
Subject: Re: TEJAS gell cell charger  
Message-Id: <Pine.SV4.3.91.950505214019.25038B-100000@atl1.america.net>

Can anyone help with how to obtain from Tejas or the flea market? I want one as well.

73/72/jim/w4qo

On Fri, 5 May 1995, Gregory R. LaBorde wrote:

> >... and the A&A system as is  
> >also in the 1995 and 1994 ARRL Handbook is a bit too rich for my blood.  
>  
> There is a guy at the Southern California swapmeets who sells the kit to  
> make that charge controller for \$8 or so? Under \$20 (US) at any rate.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 15:37:26 1995  
Message-Id: <199505051538.IAA20178@mail.netcom.com>  
Subject: Re: The Local QRPers Returns  
Date: Fri, 5 May 95 8:37:26 PDT  
From: Eric Swartz WA6HHQ <erics@cruzio.com>

Paul M. Dunphy writes on the DX reflector:>

>  
> Last week one of the Local QRPers was up the hill, this one to throw  
> himself in our chair and complain that he was tired. "I've had it", he  
> advised us, "I've had it with DXing and and with all this rushing to catch  
> something just beyond reach. I'm tired of DXing.....<snip>

Paul,

I'm sorry to see that you used QRP'ers as the subject for your tome on DX'ers who just complain and don't really try. The subject is certainly a valid one, but its both unfair and very innacurate to categorize QRP'ers in this manner.

As one who runs both QRO and QRP, and who enjoys the 'Hunt' while running QRP, I beleive that many of the best DX'ers improved their skills while hunting DX running QRP. Most QRP DX'ers I know DO spend most of their time listening and hunting, so they can be the first one there to catch the DX before the Packet Cluster crowd jumps in. Since I turned off the big amp, I've found that I can still work mucho DX, (most of it on 40m with 4w), and even break pile ups. My operating skills have improved so much while hunting DX QRP that when I when I run 100w I now have zero problems getting the DX - I feel like I'm running an Alpha!

Chasing DX QRP is a great way to improve your operating skills. My CW speed, ability to find DX and break pile ups has inreased over an order of magnitude since I started DX chasing a-la QRP last year. Its a BLAST!

Don't get me wrong, I'm not a wild eyed, QRP only fiend - I still enjoy stomping around the bands from time to time with the Alpha running full tilt - but I do feel that QRP is a great way to enjoy this hobby, and that most QRP DX'ers are excellent op's who do not fit the stereotype in your post.

The bottom line for me is: 'Have fun, QRP, QRO or however you like to operate!'

73,      Eric      WA6HHQ      erics@cruzio.com      <FLAME suit on!>

--

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Fri May 5 21:30:00 1995  
From: "Skelton, Tom" <TSkelton@engineer.clemsonsc.attgis.com>  
Subject: Re: The Local QRPer Returns  
Date: Fri, 05 May 95 14:30:00 PDT  
Message-Id: <2FAA9913@engineer.ClemsonSC.ATTGIS.COM>

-----



From: erics  
To: Paul M. Dunphy  
Cc: dx reflector; QRP Reflector  
Subject: Re: The Local QRPer Returns  
Date: Friday, May 05, 1995 12:00AM

Paul M. Dunphy writes on the DX reflector:>

>

> Last week one of the Local QRPers was up the hill, this one to throw  
> himself in our chair and complain that he was tired. "I've had it", he  
> advised us, "I've had it with DXing and and with all this rushing to catch  
  
> something just beyond reach. I'm tired of DXing.....<snip>

Paul,

I'm sorry to see that you used QRP'ers as the subject for your tome on  
DX'ers who just complain and don't really try.

<DEL>

73, Eric WA6HHQ erics@cruzio.com <FLAME suit on!>

"Local QRPer" has nothing to do with power level -- this story is a  
tribute to a writing style and terminology used by WA6AUD/Cass many  
years ago. Cass was the editor of the West Coast DX Bulletin, and  
"Local QRPer" was simply one of many descriptors he used for DXers  
(none of them derogatory). Other descriptors included Red Eyed Louie  
(the guy who stayed up all night scanning the bands, or waiting on the  
DX-pedition's frequency, so he didn't miss anything) and The Old Timer  
(the real DX sage, the one with the answers you might or might NOT  
understand). The Old Timer's pants were always a little more broad  
in the seat for good reason....

Sorry you didn't catch this...try to find a copy of "DX IS" or some  
West Coast DX Bulletins. I hope you will enjoy the writing. I always  
did .. still do!

73, Tom WB4iUX  
Tom.Skelton@ClemsonSC.ATTGIS.COM

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat May 6 00:15:30 1995  
Message-Id: <m0s7XWx-0002DmC@dxis.monroe.pa.us>  
Subject: Re: The Local QRPer Returns  
Date: Fri, 5 May 1995 20:15:30 -0400 (EDT)  
From: "Bob Schreibmaier" <k2ph@dxis.monroe.pa.us>

> Paul M. Dunphy writes on the DX reflector:>



73 - Dave.

=====

Dave Redfearn, SR PC LAN Analyst Northern Telecom RTP, NC.  
ph.(919) 992-3925 email: cmwdr01@nt.com qrl? de N4ELM/qrp

All opinions are my own, no one else wants them.